

OLD TESTAMENT 508
 Dr. John D. Currid
 Fall 2018 Atlanta

jcurrid@rts.edu
 601-559-8381©

OLD TESTAMENT EXPOSITION I:

GENESIS - JOSHUA

GOAL:

This course is an exposition of the Hexateuch, the first six books of the Hebrew Bible. As such, it is a course that studies beginnings: the beginning of the universe, the creation of man, the appearance of sin, the founding of the nation of Israel, and so forth. Our approach will be both exegetical (historical-grammatical) and theological (the unfolding of redemptive history). In this manner, we will attempt to understand the import of the writings in their time as well as for today. We will also spend significant time analyzing the Ancient Near Eastern background of the Hexateuch, particularly focusing on Egyptian and Canaanite cultures. Finally, an examination of Messianic prophecy and typology will be vital to our discussion. In this respect, the student should become aware of the many issues in Hexateuchal studies, and how these have been understood and interpreted. Ultimately, this course should provide a good foundation for the student to apply Scripture to all of life.

TEXTBOOKS:

The following books are required for this course:

1. Students who have not taken the Hebrew language (I-II) are required to bring an English Bible to class (preferably the ESV or the NASV). Students who have had Hebrew (I-II) must bring a Hebrew Bible to class
2. M. Van Pelt, A Biblical-Theological Introduction to the Old Testament: The Gospel Promised (Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2016). Read Introduction and chapters Genesis through Joshua.
3. J.D. Currid, Against the Gods: The Polemical Theology of the Old Testament (Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2013).
4. O.P. Robertson, Christ of the Covenants (Phillipsburg, NJ: P & R, 1987).

5. J. D. Currid, "Theistic Evolution Is Incompatible with the Teachings of the Old Testament," in Theistic Evolution: A Scientific, Philosophical, and Theological Critique. Eds. J. P. Moreland et.al. (Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2017).

REQUIREMENTS:

The grade for the course will be determined on the basis of the following factors:

1. The student is required to submit a 12-15 pp. typewritten paper on a topic assigned during the first day of class. The paper is due on Saturday, December 1 in class. Late papers will be docked one grade per day. 50% of the final grade.
2. The student is expected to complete the assigned readings in their entirety and all six books of the Pentateuch. You will be required to report the amount of reading you have done for the course at the time that you turn in your paper. 10% of the final grade.
3. A final examination will be given on the afternoon of the last class on December 1. 40% of the final grade.

OUTLINE OF THE COURSE

Topic

September 7-8

Syllabus
Exegesis of Deuteronomy 32:45-47

CREATION

Who Wrote the Pentateuch?
The Incomparable Creation
Views of Time in Creation

Tselem: Man in the Image of God
Near Eastern Background of Creation

Man and Woman in the Garden

FALL

The Runner Stumbles: Causes of Fall
Results of the Fall

September 28-29

REDEMPTION

Seed of the Serpent
Seed of the Woman
Fusion of the Seeds

Call of the Seed
Sacrifice of the Seed
Clash of the Seeds

October 26-27

The Bones of Joseph
Yahweh and Pharaoh
Yahweh and the Gods of Egypt

Passover and the Red Sea Event
Ten Commandments

The Word Tabernacled Among Us

The Exodus Pattern in the Ark Episode

Priesthood in Israel
 Nadab and Abihu
 Sacrificial System

November 30-December 1

Dietary Laws
 Sabbath, Sabbatic Year, Jubilee
 Concept of Kinsman-Redeemer

Grumbling and the Bronze Serpent
 Israel and Idolatry
 The Shema

Deuteronomy as a Vassal Treaty
 Ten Commandments as Structural
 The Book of Joshua

Extension Policy

All assignments and exams are to be completed by the deadlines announced in this syllabus or in class.

Extensions for assignments and exams due within the normal duration of the course must be approved beforehand by the Professor. Extensions of two weeks or less beyond the date of the last deadline for the course must be approved beforehand by the Professor. A grade penalty may be assessed.

Extensions of greater than two weeks but not more than six weeks beyond the last deadline for the course may be granted in extenuating circumstances (i.e. illness, family emergency). For an extension of more than two weeks the student must request an Extension Request Form from the Registrar's Office. The request must be approved by the Professor and the Academic Dean. A grade penalty may be assessed. (RTS Catalog p. 42 and RTS Atlanta Student Handbook p. 14)

Any incompletes not cleared six weeks after the last published due date for course work will be converted to a failing grade. Professors may have the failing grade changed to a passing grade by request. (RTS Catalog p. 42)

REFORMED  THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
SYSTEM

Course Objectives Related to MDiv* Student Learning Outcomes

Course: Genesis-Joshua

Professor: Currid

Campus: Atlanta

Date: Fall, 2018

<u>MDiv* Student Learning Outcomes</u>		<u>Rubric</u>	<u>Mini-Justification</u>
<i>In order to measure the success of the MDiv curriculum, RTS has defined the following as the intended outcomes of the student learning process. Each course contributes to these overall outcomes. This rubric shows the contribution of this course to the MDiv outcomes. *As the MDiv is the core degree at RTS, the MDiv rubric will be used in this syllabus.</i>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Strong ➤ Moderate ➤ Minimal ➤ None 	
Articulation (oral & written)	Broadly understands and articulates knowledge, both oral and written, of essential biblical, theological, historical, and cultural/global information, including details, concepts, and frameworks.	Strong	Required research paper
Scripture	Significant knowledge of the original meaning of Scripture. Also, the concepts for and skill to research further into the original meaning of Scripture and to apply Scripture to a variety of modern circumstances. (Includes appropriate use of original languages and hermeneutics; and integrates theological, historical, and cultural/global perspectives.)	Strong	It is a course on Scripture!
Reformed Theology	Significant knowledge of Reformed theology and practice, with emphasis on the Westminster Standards.	Moderate	Will deal with Reformers interpretation of Scripture
Sanctification	Demonstrates a love for the Triune God that aids the student's sanctification.	Strong	Application of Scripture to life
Desire for Worldview	Burning desire to conform all of life to the Word of God.	Strong	Application of Scripture to life

Winsomely Reformed	Embraces a winsomely Reformed ethos. (Includes an appropriate ecumenical spirit with other Christians, especially Evangelicals; a concern to present the Gospel in a God-honoring manner to non-Christians; and a truth-in-love attitude in disagreements.)	Moderate	
Preach	Ability to preach and teach the meaning of Scripture to both heart and mind with clarity and enthusiasm.	Moderate	Many preaching illustrations
Worship	Knowledgeable of historic and modern Christian-worship forms; and ability to construct and skill to lead a worship service.	Minimal	
Shepherd	Ability to shepherd the local congregation: aiding in spiritual maturity; promoting use of gifts and callings; and encouraging a concern for non-Christians, both in America and worldwide.	Minimal	
Church/World	Ability to interact within a denominational context, within the broader worldwide church, and with significant public issues.	Minimal	
